



**SI VIEW METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Si View Metro Parks Pursues a Community Driven Aquatics Center Model

North Bend, WA – Driven by strong interest from District constituents and greater Snoqualmie Valley community members, Si View Metro Parks is exploring options for developing a new aquatics facility in the community. The community's need for an aquatics facility has been identified repeatedly in District needs assessment surveys and in the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update. Given the resources required for developing and operating an aquatics facility, the District is conducting a detailed aquatics feasibility study specific to our community by a team of highly qualified professionals with expertise in aquatics facilities, market analysis, business planning and public outreach.

During this process, at the June 5th commission meeting, the Board of Commissioners reached a major milestone in unanimously selecting a preferred option from alternatives developed by the consulting team. The preferred option consists of a 46,000 square foot aquatics facility with recreational and competitive pool features. This option includes lap lanes for fitness and play features for all ages in a warmer recreational pool, as well as a separate 6-8 lane competitive pool with deep water diving area and spectator seating. The proposed model also includes options for a splash pad area, and classroom spaces. The consulting team will now move to the final reporting stages of the study that will include a business plan, site analysis, traffic study, conceptual drawings and preliminary cost estimate for the selected option. Final feasibility report is expected this summer.

During the feasibility study process, the community has been active in public engagement opportunities. The first public meeting in January with 150 attendees was a workshop format with two goals: to confirm community support for a new Aquatic Center and to hear community opinions about the future location and amenities that they want for the new facility. An online survey followed in March, asking the community about their willingness to support the ideas that came out of the first workshop. This online survey received 940 individual responses. The final public meeting in late April asked participants to weigh in on three facility alternatives driven by public input received.

An aquatics facility that meets the needs of today's community and accommodates future growth is one of the top three priorities identified in the District's 2017 Comprehensive Plan

Update. This first deliberate step towards developing a new state-of-the-art aquatics facility to last for decades ensures that the end result provides the best possible outcome for the whole community. Upon completion of the study, Board of Commissioners will consider financing options that include collaborative partnerships, grant opportunities and a capital bond proposal.

Si View Metro Parks is committed to serving the recreation needs of Snoqualmie Valley residents. A public pool with opportunities for water play for all ages and abilities, learn to swim programs, water safety and fitness programs, and competitive swimming is a high priority. The current Si View Pool is an aging facility, with decades of serving the community, it is no longer adequately sized for today's community.

For more information about Si View's aquatics feasibility study in progress, please visit www.siviewpark.org/newpool.phtml or call (425) 831-1900.